

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 NEA-10 CCO-00

CIAE-00 OTPE-00 FCC-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 OC-06 USIA-06

COME-00 BIB-01 ACDA-07 DODE-00 PM-04 L-03 NASA-01

NSC-05 ERDA-05 OES-06 SS-15 IO-13 OIC-02 /133 W

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R 161927Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 775

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USLO PEKING

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 3303

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: INTELSAT, ETEL, PORC, CH, TW, CA

SUBJ: INTELSAT - PRC INTENTIONS

REF: (A) OTTAWA 1832; (B) OTTAWA 1956 (NOTAL)

1. REFERRING TO PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS WITH EXTAFB REPORTED REFTELS, ECON COUNSELOR ASKED LABERGE (DIRECTOR, ENERGY, TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION) AUGUST 13 WHETHER GOC HAD ANY NEW INFORMATION OF PRC INTENTIONS RE PARTICIPATION IN INTELSAT OR HAD DONE ANY FURTHER THINKING ABOUT HOW TO HANDLE QUESTION IF IT AROSE.

2. LABERGE SAID GOC HAD NO NEW INFORMATION ON PRC INTENTIONS
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BUT HAS BEEN DISCUSSING ISSUE INTERNALLY IN PREPARATION FOR

NAIROBI ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES. HE OUTLINED GOC THINKING
AS FOLLOWS:

(A) GOC HAS A CHINA POLICY AND CANNOT ACT INCONSISTENTLY
WITH IT BUT "CERTAINLY DOESN'T WANT TO HURT TAIWAN'S
INTERESTS IN ANY WAY".

(B) GOC HOPES PRC WILL NOT SEEK ACTIVE CANADIAN SUPPORT
IF IT DECIDES TO APPLY FOR ENTRY INTO INTELSAT.
PRC HAS NOT REPEAT NOT DONE SO AND GOC THINKS IT
MORE LIKELY THAT COUNTRY "SUCH AS PAKISTAN MIGHT CARRY
CHINESE BALL".

(C) AT NAIROBI, GOC SHOULD ADOPT "VERY LOW POSTURE",
SHOULD IN PARTICULAR AVOID INVOLVEMENT IN CREDENTIALS
COMMITTEE WHERE IT THINKS ISSUE MOST LIKELY TO SURFACE
FIRST, AND WHEN AND IF ISSUE ARISES, SHOULD ACT
CONSISTENTLY WITH ITS BASIC CHINA POLICY (I.E., SUPPORT
PRC PARTICIPATION) BUT SEEK WAYS TO PROTECT COMMERCIAL
ARRANGEMENTS WITH TAIWAN.

3. LABERGE SAID TELEGLOBE, CANADA'S INTELSAT SIGNATORY
LOOKS AT QUESTION FROM "HARD-HEADED BUSINESS STANDPOINT",
WANTS TO KEEP TAIWAN'S ITDC AS AN INTELSAT PARTNER, DEPLORES
INTRODUCTION OF POLITICAL ISSUES, AND WANTS "PRACTICAL
SOLUTION" IF PROBLEM ARISES.

4. LABERGE SAID HE THINKS IT IMPORTANT FOR USG AND GOC TO
CONSULT CLOSELY. EXTAFF WILL BE INSTRUCTING CANADIAN EMBASSY
WASHINGTON TO CONTACT DEPARTMENT TO DISCUSS SITUATION AND TO
ASK ABOUT TACTICS USG HAS IN MIND TO DEAL WITH ANY PRC
INITIATIVE. IN RESPONSE TO ECON COUNSELOR'S QUESTION, LABERGE
SAID GOC HAD NOT COME UP WITH CONCRETE IDEA FOR RECONCILING
PRC MEMBERSHIP AND CONTINUED ROC ACCESS (PARA 3, REFTEL B)
BUT WOULD ALSO BE INTERESTED IN PURSUING THIS IN CONSULTATIONS
WITH USG.

5. COMMENT: HAVING BEEN BURNED DOMESTICALLY AS WELL AS
INTERNATIONALLY ON TAIWAN ISSUE IN OLYMPICS, GOC IS OBVIOUSLY
KEEPING ITS HEAD DOWN AND ITS FINGERS CROSSED. IT WOULD APPEAR
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ALSO THAT VIEWS OF TELEGLOBE, WHICH SEES TAIWAN AS MUCH MORE
IMPORTANT THAN PRC FROM COMMUNICATIONS STANDPOINT FOR THE
FORESEEABLE FUTURE, ARE HAVING INFLUENCE ON GOC POLICYMAKERS.
LEARY

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